The Hoosier Tornado that Swept Through the Nation

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As partners, we chose the topic of Carole Lombard because of our interests in Indiana history and important women in history. Lombard was a person with a triumphant career who also had a huge impact on Indiana’s and the United States’ history. Her career and her life was very fascinating, causing us to be intrigued during our studies. We began to research a little about her and decided to choose her as our topic. Our fascination over her influenced us do interviews and watch some of her films. Lombard fits with the theme creating the ideal topic with Triumph and Tragedy.

We conducted our research by using sources like books, videos, websites, and magazines. We received help from the Fort Wayne Historical Society, the owner of Carole Lombard’s childhood house, and our social studies teacher. Many books, like Robert Matzen’s 2013 book *Fireball: Carole Lombard and the Mystery of Flight 3*, and Wes D. Gehring’s book, *Carole Lombard: The Hoosier Tornado*, helped us understand the life and death of Lombard. On top of this, we interviewed the owner, Rick Brandt, of the Carole Lombard house. We also had a phone interview with professor Ann Chirhart, from Indiana State University. Mr. Brandt and Professor Chirhart furthered our understanding of Carole Lombard’s life and the impact of women’s history. The Fort Wayne Historical Society provided us pictures and articles of Carole Lombard. The interviews and sources helped us become more knowledgeable over our topic.

We chose to do a documentary because we had the chance to do a previous documentary and it interested us as partners to make another one. The documentary also seemed to allow us to fit in more information rather than a website, paper, or exhibit board. We also wanted to be able to show Lombard’s films during her career. We created the documentary by using the program iMovie. This was simple, and allowed us to make our film
without complications. It was easily navigable, making it a quick process. Not only this, but it allowed us to work collaboratively on the project.

Our topic goes with the theme, “Triumph and Tragedy” because of Lombard’s accomplishments in her life and her devastating plane crash. She started acting at a young age, allowing for her to improve as an actress and as a person. Her career allowed her to star in many films. She gained worldwide attention for her work that she acted in. She starred in many popular films including *To Be or Not to Be*, *My Man Godfrey*, *Made for Each Other*, and *Twentieth Century*. She played the main roles of most of these films, but was often portrayed as a ditzy woman. However, this was not the case because she was an intelligent and clever person. Her successful career came to a halt in 1942, when her sudden plane crash landed into the side of a mountain. This tragic ending affected the United States because of her successful career and her patriotism she brought to the country.
Annotated Bibliography

Primary Sources


This 1938 photograph shows us what Carole Lombard looked like on the set of her movies. Carole Lombard is featured with actor Fernand Gravet on the set of the movie, Fools for Scandal. In this movie, Carole Lombard plays as a famous actress while a penniless, but charming man, Fernand Gravet, tries to win over her heart. This photograph also shows us how she interacted with the other actors and actresses during this movie.


This photograph shows a picture of the newspaper that featured Carole Lombard’s death. This is significant because Carole Lombard’s shocking death was able to steal headlines in the newspaper from World War II. This incredible death lead to many newspapers featuring her death. This showed us the impact of her death and the many ways it affected society.


This photo source shows us how World War II was and the effects of the war. It showed
us the importance of the war and what the soldiers had to go through. It demonstrated the hardships of World War II and showed us the trouble many American soldiers went through. This helped us understand why Lombard wanted to help her nation through her patriotism and will to help win the war.

*Any Questions Presentation Slide 35564 | NEWSMOV*,


This photo showed us what she looked like and some of her personality. This is important because it shows how others viewed her. It helped us understand her general look during her career.

Archives, La Guardia and Wagner. “Carole Lombard Visits President Franklin D. Roosevelt in the Oval Office. She Died in a Plane Crash during a U.S. War Bonds Campaign in January 1942.” *Flickr*, Yahoo!, 4 June 2010,


This photograph shows us the meeting between Franklin D. Roosevelt and Carole Lombard in the Oval Office. They had this meeting shortly after Franklin D. Roosevelt had his “fireside chat” on December 29, 1940. This shows us that Carole Lombard had many friends, including President Franklin D. Roosevelt. Carole Lombard’s close relationship with Franklin D. Roosevelt caused Roosevelt to award Carole Lombard the Medal of Freedom for her notable service to her country.

This video showed us the bombing of Pearl Harbor and what happened during the event. This helped us understand what happened and how significant it was. It showed us the bombing of the USS Arizona. This bombing showed us how the United States entered World War II and how big this event was. This video showed us the Japanese planes flying over the harbor.


This source showed us the Hollywood Victory Committee and the involvement of Clark Gable and Carole Lombard. The Hollywood Victory Committee is was a committee that was founded on December 10, 1941, to help contribute to the war effort. This helped us understand the involvement of the couple and how important it was to them. This committee was very important for war efforts and often persuaded the public to contribute to war efforts. The committee often contributed a lot of money to war efforts, like Lombard did.

“Carole &amp; Co.” The Hearsts Meet the Kanes at the Castle, carole-and-co.livejournal.com/928362.html.

This photo showed us a poster of a film that Lombard was in. This was during her
early acting years. This gave us information on the film and the beginning years of her career. This poster was her with Paramount films, the company that lead Lombard to her many successes in her career. The poster showed one of her films, *I Take This Woman*, helping us understand one of the films she was in. This film was about a poor cowboy, Gary Cooper, that marries his wealthy employer’s daughter, Carole Lombard.

"Carole & Co." *The Hearsts Meet the Kanes at the Castle*,
carole-and-co.livejournal.com/515047.html.

This source exemplifies Lombard’s patriotism and love for her country. It shows her off screen and her interacting with some of the soldiers of World War II. This helped us understand how she was willing to help the country by promoting the war bonds. Lombard is considered to be one of the most patriotic actresses from the United States. She presented the first war bond rally in World War II in the United States.

"Carole & Co." *The Hearsts Meet the Kanes at the Castle*,
carole-and-co.livejournal.com/750594.html.

This source showed us Lombard as a child. This helped us understand what she looked like when she was in Indiana. This was important because it helps us understand her personality as a child. She was often a tomboy in her youth and played many sports with her siblings. She also often went to movies as a child and dreamed of becoming a famous actress.

This photograph was taken at the Fort Wayne History Society. This picture features Carole Lombard’s face. The photograph helped us comprehend what she looked like during her acting career.


This photograph was taken at the Fort Wayne Historical Society. This picture helped us gain a better understanding of Carole Lombard’s outgoing personality and how she acted around her friends on the set of her movies.


This picture showed us the war bond rally that Lombard participated in. It shows her in front the crowd giving her speech to Indianapolis. This helped us understand the significance of this rally.


This photograph shows us the TWA DC-3 plane that Carole Lombard, her mother, press assistant, and the army pilots boarded before the plane crash occurred in
Nevada. This picture shows us that the crash was very surprising because the plane is built perfectly and has people working on the plane to ensure the passengers’ safety.

“Carole Lombard and Mayor Reginald H. Sullivan at Union Station.” Larry Foster Collection, images.indianahistory.org/cdm/singleitem/collection/p16797coll35/id/412/rec/1.

This photograph shows Carole Lombard with her mother, press assistant, and Mayor Reginald H. Sullivan at Union Station. This is where Carole Lombard sold over 2 million dollars worth of war bonds.


This photo was taken at the Fort Wayne Historical Society. This showed us her at Christmas time and what her personality was like. This helped us understand more about her character.

Carole Lombard Crash Site on Mt. Potosi, hwstock.org/lomb/.

This photo showed us the memorial of Mount Potosi where the plane crashed. It gave us further information on her death and how it affected society.


This photo was taken at the Fort Wayne Historical Society. This photo shows Carole Lombard and how she was viewed by the press. She had a black dress on during this
photoshoot.


This photo was taken at the Fort Wayne Historical Society. This photo showed us what she looked like and how she was often depicted. This showed us her personality and what her photographs looked like.


This photo was taken at the Fort Wayne Historical society. This photo showed us what Carole Lombard looked like when she was a child. It helped us understand what she was like and her original name.


This photo was taken at the Fort Wayne Historical Society. This showed a picture of Lombard while in a film. This helped us understand what she looked like while on film.


This showed us her at the war bond rally. It showed us the military people there and how big the event was.

This photo was taken at the Fort Wayne Historical Society. This photo shows Carole Lombard's moods. The photo also shows Carole Lombard acting in her movies.


This photo shows Carole Lombard’s plane crash that occurred 1942. This devastating moment ended Carole Lombard’s life along with her mother’s, press assistant’s, and soldiers’ lives. This photo helps us understand that the plane crash did occur despite the fact that the cause of the crash is unknown.


This photo was taken at the Fort Wayne Historical Society. This shows the character of Carole Lombard and what she was often depicted as. This helped us understand what she looked like.


This showed us a picture of Lombard in the war bond rally and her with the governor of Indiana. This helped us understand the significance of the rally and the appreciation she was given.

“Carole Lombard, Selling War Bonds, - a Photo on Flickrriver.” *Flickriver - A New Way to View Flickr Photos and More...*, www.flickriver.com/photos/55355525@N08/6994455764/.
This photograph shows Carole Lombard buying war bonds. This shows how her patriotism influenced the nation. Carole Lombard's patriotism led to her selling two million dollars worth of war bonds in a single day, which was the most war bonds sold in one day.


This showed the interaction of Lombard with the crowd at the war bond rally. This helped us understand her influence on others and her love for her country.


This recording gave us information on the Indianapolis rally. It showed us the passion that Lombard gave about the war and her importance of the war bond rally. This gave us more information on the importance of the bonds.


This photo was taken at the Fort Wayne Historical Society. This showed Gable after the death of Carole Lombard and the emotions of the event. This helped us understand the bond between the couple.

Classique, Monique, director. Clark Gable and Carole Lombard. YouTube, YouTube, 23 July
2008, m.youtube.com/watch?v=thhG-eLjGAK.

This video showed us Clark Gable and Carole Lombard. This helped us understand their relationship and how they were as a couple.

DarkCastle2012, Kyle J. Wood's, director. CAROLE LOMBARD 16mm CRASH FOOTAGE. YouTube, YouTube, 2 June 2013, m.youtube.com/watch?v=i8qk9k81XEq.

This gave us footage of the plane crash that ended the life of Carole Lombard. This helped us understand how big of a crash it was and the search parties that looked for the bodies.

“Dr. Ann Chirhart.” Indiana State University, 12 Apr. 2019, www.indstate.edu/faculty-staff/ann-chirhart

This photo features Professor Ann Chirhart from Indiana State University. Professor Chirhart specializes in women’s history and African American studies.

Edwards, Katie, director. Nothing Sacred. YouTube, YouTube, 5 Nov. 2017, m.youtube.com/watch?v=cMHWfGp2fbk.

This video showed us one of the films that Lombard was a part of. It showed us how she acted and what she looked like in her films and her cometic side.


This photograph features Carole Lombard advocating for people to buy war bonds. In this picture, Carole Lombard looks happy because she is doing her patriotic duty for her nation and helping fund the war.


This source gave us information on what she looked like and how she was pictured. This is important because it gave us an idea of what she looked like and helped us understand her personality.


This photo features Carole Lombard during a photoshoot. Carole Lombard is wearing a pantsuit which represents her attitude as a strong independent woman.


This interview helped us with understanding the war bond rally Carole Lombard attended in Indiana. This shows the last time Carole Lombard would ever speak to her
fans again.


This website gave us photos of Carole Lombard in the war bond rally. It helped us understand how many people were there and the importance of the rally.

"I Take This Woman." *IMDb*, IMDb.com,


This photograph showed us one of the movie posters that Carole Lombard was a part of. This helped us understand how she was depicted and the way posters were made during this time.

"Let's All Fight Buy War Bonds WWII War Propaganda Art Print Poster Posters at AllPosters.com." *AllPosters.com*,

www.allposters.com/-sp/Let-s-All-Fight-Buy-War-Bonds-WWII-War-Propaganda-Art-Print-Poster-Posters_i8831751_.htm.

This photograph shows an image of a war bond poster. The war bond poster was meant to encourage people to buy war bonds because they helped fund the war.

Library, FDR. "The President's Personal File Contains This Correspondence between FDR and Clark Gable & Carole Lombard. When Returning from a War Bond Tour Carole Was
Killed in a Plane Crash. FDR and Clark Gable Exchanged These Touching Letters after Her Death. #ArchivesAtTheMovies Pic.twitter.com/JCKU7efVaO.” *Twitter*, Twitter, 8 Feb. 2019, twitter.com/FDRLibrary/status/1093940075795238912.

This website gave us photos of the letters that were given to Clark Gable and Carole Lombard. This showed us the quote from FDR, and the response given. This helped us understand the connection between the president and the couple, helping us understand more about them.


This photo was taken at the Fort Wayne Historical Society. This white and black photograph features Carole Lombard looking off into the distance.

Me123, director. *My Man Godfrey*. YouTube, YouTube, 20 Nov. 2013, m.youtube.com/watch?v=3adHdfNzJII.

This film showed Lombard portraying a wife of William Powell. This showed the interaction between the two and their connection that they had. This was important in showing the roles of women in films.

This photograph features a group of people searching for the bodies that were killed in the TWA DC-3 plane. This shows that people wanted to have closure that the beloved actress, Carole Lombard, had indeed died.


This photo showed us how Carole Lombard looked professionally. This photo shows Carole Lombard starring in the movie *Vigil in the Night*.

Nautanki, BASICally, director. To Be or Not to Be. YouTube, YouTube, 27 May 2017, m.youtube.com/watch?v=T3eG37VDvfc.

This film was the last film Lombard was a part of. This showed us the portraying of World War II. This is important because it shows Lombard at the end of her career.


This showed us the movie of Clark Gable and Lombard. This shows their connection and how they worked with each other. This was important because it helped us understand how they soon became married.

"Online Library of Liberty." *The Revolutionary Writings of Alexander Hamilton - Online*
Library of Liberty,


This photograph shows a picture of a war bond poster. These war bond posters were important because the money would go into the military’s funding for the war.

“Online Library of Liberty.” The Revolutionary Writings of Alexander Hamilton - Online Library of Liberty,


This photograph shows a picture of a poster intended to persuade people to buy more war bonds. These war bond posters were critical because they helped bring in more money for the United States of America.


This video was of Carole Lombard giving a speech in Indiana. This is important because it showed her patriotism and her views on helping her country. It showed her effect on the crowd and the excitement.

Robert Matzen, robertmatzen.com/tag/carole-lombard-jack-benny/.

This photo helped us understand how Carole Lombard looked. It helped us understand her personality and how she was pictured. This is important because it helps us understand who she was.
Robert Matzen, robertmatzen.com/tag/carole-lombard-scars/.

This photo showed us the scar on Carole Lombard’s face. This helped us understand the size of it and how it was seen on screen.


This photograph shows the story of Carole Lombard’s death. Carole Lombard had died from a plane crash in which the plane was featured in this website.

“r/OldSchoolCool - Robert Stack (Unsolved Mysteries) Laughing With Co-Star Carole Lombard in ‘To Be Or Not To Be’ (1942).” Reddit, www.reddit.com/r/OldSchoolCool/comments/7rw5c1/robert_stack_unsolved_mysteries_laughing_with/.

This picture showed us Carole Lombard laughing, showing us her personality when she was alive. This helped us understand of what she was like and her character.

This photograph was taken in Carson City, Nevada which shows Carole Lombard filing a divorce with her first husband, William Powell. Lombard is shown to look like an average woman instead of a Hollywood actress.


This picture shows a group of people sending the SS Carole Lombard ship off into sea. This shows how much of an influence Carole Lombard had on her peers and fans.

*The Hearsts Meet the Kanes at the Castle*, carole-and-co.livejournal.com/tag/war bond rally.

This photo gave us an idea of the war bond rally. It shows Lombard collecting these bonds and how there were many people participating. This is important because it shows us her patriotism during the rally.


This photograph gave us information on the recruiting process during World War II. It showed us how important it was to participate in helping in the war for the United States.
“The Great Depression.” *PBS*, Public Broadcasting Service,

www.pbs.org/wgbh/americanexperience/features/dustbowl-great-depression/.

This website showed us the people affected by the Great Depression and what it was like during this time. This helped us understand the struggles and hardships that many people had to endure.

“This Is My Fight Too War Bonds WWII War Propaganda Art Print Poster Prints at AllPosters.com.” *AllPosters.com*,

www.allposters.com/-sp/This-is-My-Fight-Too-War-Bonds-WWII-War-Propaganda-Art-Print-Poster-Posters_i8850322_.htm.

This photograph shows that people at their homes were still able to do their patriotic duty by buying bonds to help fund the war. The war bond posters significantly helped in war funding because many people believed that they were contributing their efforts to the war without actually fighting on battlefields.
Secondary Sources


This website gave us information on war bonds during World War II. It helped us understand the importance of the war bonds during the war. It described the process of how they were distributed and sold during World War II.


This website helped us understand how to set up our scripts for our documentary. It also helped us understand how the nation viewed Carole Lombard as a comedic actress.


This interview is about how Carole Lombard interacted toward her fans and
community. It also helped us have a better understanding of Carole Lombard’s personality and how the nation viewed Carole Lombard. Carole Lombard inspired many Americans by her perseverance as a woman actress.


This website helped us understand the life and many movies that Carole Lombard was a part of. It told us the many traits that she had and how she became a famous actress. It helped us understand some of her life and how she became an influential actress.


This website helped us understand Carole Lombard’s nickname “The Queen of Slapstick.” The website also helped us understand what slapstick comedy was and what other actresses would fall under this category.


This website gave us information on the flight that she was in. It gave us information on what people believed happened to the plan. It also gave us information on the events right before the crash and the people involved.

This website provided information over Carole Lombard’s early life and career. The website helped us learn who was involved in her life.


This gave us information on her death and the medal that she received. It gave us information on the ship that was named after her. It helped us understand how people recognized and mourned her after her death.


This website gave us how Carole effected Indiana during her life. It gave us the information on all of the war bonds that she gave to Indiana. It also helped us understand the war bond rally that she was doing and why it was so important during this time.

Chirhart, Ann. “Professor Chirhart Interview.”

Professor Chirhart helped us understand women's roles during the 1930s and 1940s. This helped us understand how Lombard acted and what women experienced during this time period.


This website gave us a better understanding of Carole Lombard’s acting career. The details included how Carole Lombard was able to become a successful actress.


This website gave us information over Carole Lombard’s parent’s divorce and her family life. This website also provided us with information over the films Carole Lombard starred in.


This source provided us information on her career and her entire life. It helped us understand the lasting impact she made on the United States. Lombard’s obituary included Carole Lombard’s life as a child, her marriages, and the impact she had on society.

“Hollywood’s Hoosier Queen: Carole Lombard.” OrangeBean Indiana, 24 Jan. 2019,
This website is about Carole Lombard’s early life and how she became an actress. This website emphasizes how Carole Lombard started as a Indiana Hoosier and became the most influential actress in that time period.

This website gave us a lot of information on her career and the accomplishments in her life. It gave us a brief timeline of her life. This also described how she was liked by so many people and how she helped the entire country.


This website helped us gain a better understanding of William Powell and Carole Lombard’s relationship. This website also provided with information over Carole
Lombard’s married life with William Powell.


This website helped us learn about the medal President Franklin D. Roosevelt awarded to Carole Lombard. This website also taught us the significance of the medal and why he awarded Carole Lombard with the prestigious award.


This interview helped us understand the life and the character of Carole Lombard. We received more information over the war bond rally and her affects in Indiana.


This website provided us with many details over the day of Carole Lombard's death. It also provided us with a video to watch which helped us gain a better understanding of the details of the plane crash.

“The Life and Many Loves of Clark Gable.” *ReelRundown*, ReelRundown,

This source described Carole Lombard’s love interests, early life, and personality. It helped us with understanding why she had such a big influence on her peers and how Carole Lombard’s relationships turned out.

*Vegetation Around Las Vegas, Mojave Desert Scrub (Upper Sonoran Life Zone),* www.birdandhike.com/Hike/Other_Areas/Lombard/_Lombard_photos.htm.

This website helped us understand Carole Lombard’s plane crash. The website told us gave us pictures over the Mount Potosi in Nevada.

*Weapons in the War of 1812 | NCpedia,* www.ncpedia.org/anchor/war-bonds.

This website gave us information on war bonds and how they were advertised. It also taught us how many schools would participate in drives to sell bonds. It helped us understand how people felt a need to help the soldiers fighting in the war.


This website gave us information on her career and her early life. This helped us understand how she became famous and helped describe her lifestyle. It gave us a lot of information on her childlife helping us understand when she was in Indiana.